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**FISHERIES**

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# ICCAT Advisory Committee

**Domestic Management Update**

October 13, 2016

# ICCAT Porbeagle Final Rule

- Proposed rule published June 15 (81 FR 3907); Final rule published August 24 (81 FR 57803); effective September 23, 2016
- Implements ICCAT Recommendation 15-06 that requires fishing vessels to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, porbeagle sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries when brought alive alongside the vessel
- Porbeagles alive at the time of haulback must be released alive, to the extent practicable, on:
  - Pelagic longline vessels
  - HMS Angling & HMS CHB vessels when SWO, tuna, or BLF are retained
  - Atlantic tunas General category & Atlantic SWO General commercial vessels fishing in a registered HMS tournament when a SWO, tuna, or BLF are retained

# Quota Adjustments – NALB, WBFT, NSWO

## Western Bluefin Tuna

- 2015 baseline U.S. quota: 1,083.79                      2015 adjusted quota: 1,178.66 mt
- 2015 catch: 896.30 mt                                      2015 underharvest: 282.36 mt
- 2016 baseline Reserve quota: 24.8 mt                      **2016 adjusted Reserve quota: 200.58 mt**
- Per the current ICCAT BFT recommendation, only 10% percent of the total 2015 U.S. quota, or 108.38 mt, may be carried forward to the 2016 fishing year.

## Northern Albacore

- 2015 baseline quota: 527 mt                                      2015 adjusted quota: 541.31 mt
- 2015 catch: 247.70 mt                                      2015 underharvest: 293.61 mt
- 2016 baseline quota: 527 mt                                      **2016 adjusted quota: 658.75 mt**
- Per the current ICCAT NALB recommendation, only 25% percent of the total 2015 U.S. quota, or 131.75 mt, may be carried forward to the 2016 fishing year.

## North Atlantic Swordfish

- 2015 baseline U.S. quota: 2,937.6 mt dw                      2015 adjusted quota: 3,359.6 mt dw
- 2015 catch: 1,177.8 mt dw                                      2015 underharvest: 2,181.6 mt dw
- 2016 baseline quota: 2,937.6 mt dw                      **2016 adjusted quota: 3,359.4 mt dw**
- Per the current ICCAT NSWO recommendation, only 15 percent of the total 2015 U.S. quota, or 440.6 mt dw, may be carried forward to 2016 fishing year, minus 18.8 mt dw transfer to Mauritania

## South Atlantic Swordfish

- Adjusted South Atlantic swordfish quota of 75.1 mt dw
- 75.2 mt dw baseline – 75.2 mt dw transfers to other countries\* + 75.1 carryover from 2015
- \*transfers to Namibia (37.6 mt dw); Cote d'Ivoire (18.8 mt dw), & Belize (18.8 mt dw)



# Domestic rulemaking

- **IBQ inseason transfer proposed rule** – Would adjust the Individual Bluefin Quota Program to provide BFT quota transferred inseason to the Longline category to all qualified IBQ share recipients, or to permitted Longline vessels with recent fishing activity, whether or not they are associated with IBQ shares; comment period ends Oct 26
- **Vessel upgrade proposed rule** – Would remove vessel upgrade restrictions for Swordfish Directed and Atlantic tunas Longline permits; comment period closed Sept 26
- **Archival tag final rule** - Removed the requirement for researchers using internal or external archival tags to obtain written authorization from NMFS and the requirement for fishermen to report their catches of HMS with such tags to NMFS; Kept the allowance for fishermen to land any Atlantic HMS with a surgically implanted tag to return the tag to the researcher or NMFS; final rule published August 19; effective Sept 19
- **Electronic BFT dealer reporting final rule** - Changed dealer reporting from handwritten and faxed landings reports to electronic reporting system; final rule published June 29; effective July 28
- **Draft Amendment 10 EFH** – would revise Atlantic HMS Essential Fish Habitat designations and revise/implement Habitat Areas of Particular Concern for bluefin tuna, and lemon, sand tiger, and sandbar sharks; comment period closes Dec 22



# Inseason actions for 2016 to date

## Bluefin Tuna

- 101.4 mt from Purse Seine to Reserve category using A7 formula (Jan 2016, A7 authority)
- 24.3 mt within General category from Dec 2016 to Jan-Mar 2016 (Dec 2015, A7 authority)
- 34 mt from Reserve category to Longline category (January)
- 125 mt from Reserve category to General category (October)
- Angling category retention limit, effective April 23- December 31: 2 school BFT and 1 large school/small medium on private vessels; 3 school and 1 large school/small medium on CHB (when fishing recreational for BFT)
- General category retention limit: Jan-March (2); June-August (5); and Sept-Dec (5)
- Angling category Trophy South closure, effective April 10
- Angling category Trophy North closure, effective August 6

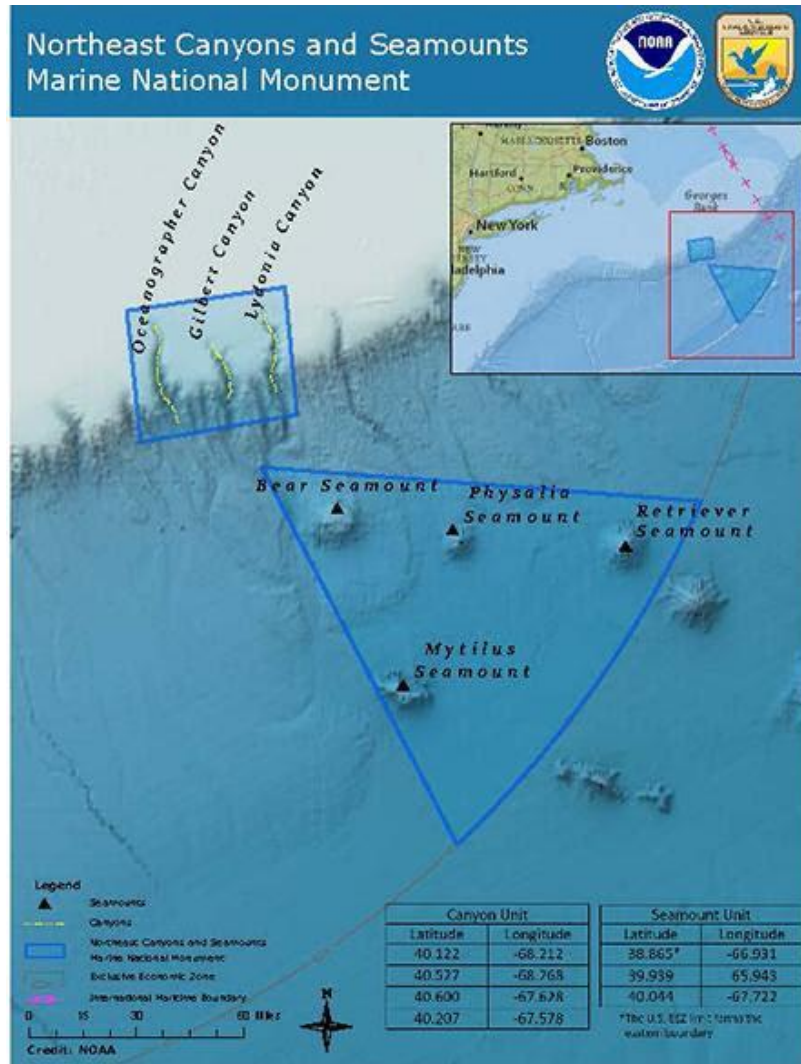
## Swordfish

- Adjusted Swordfish General Commercial & HMS CHB (only when on a non-for-hire trip) retention limits to 6 SWO/trip except for Florida Swordfish Management Area (December, June)

\*\*Inseason actions/Landings updates (all HMS) available at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>

# Northeast Canyons & Seamounts Monument

- On Sept 15, 2016, President Obama designated the first marine national monument in the Atlantic Ocean that includes four undersea mountains and three undersea canyons.



Commercial fishing and other resource extraction activities will be prohibited within the monument boundaries. A 60-day transition period is in effect for all commercial fisheries. For more information regarding the monument please visit the [NOAA Fisheries Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument Frequently Asked Questions Webpage](#).

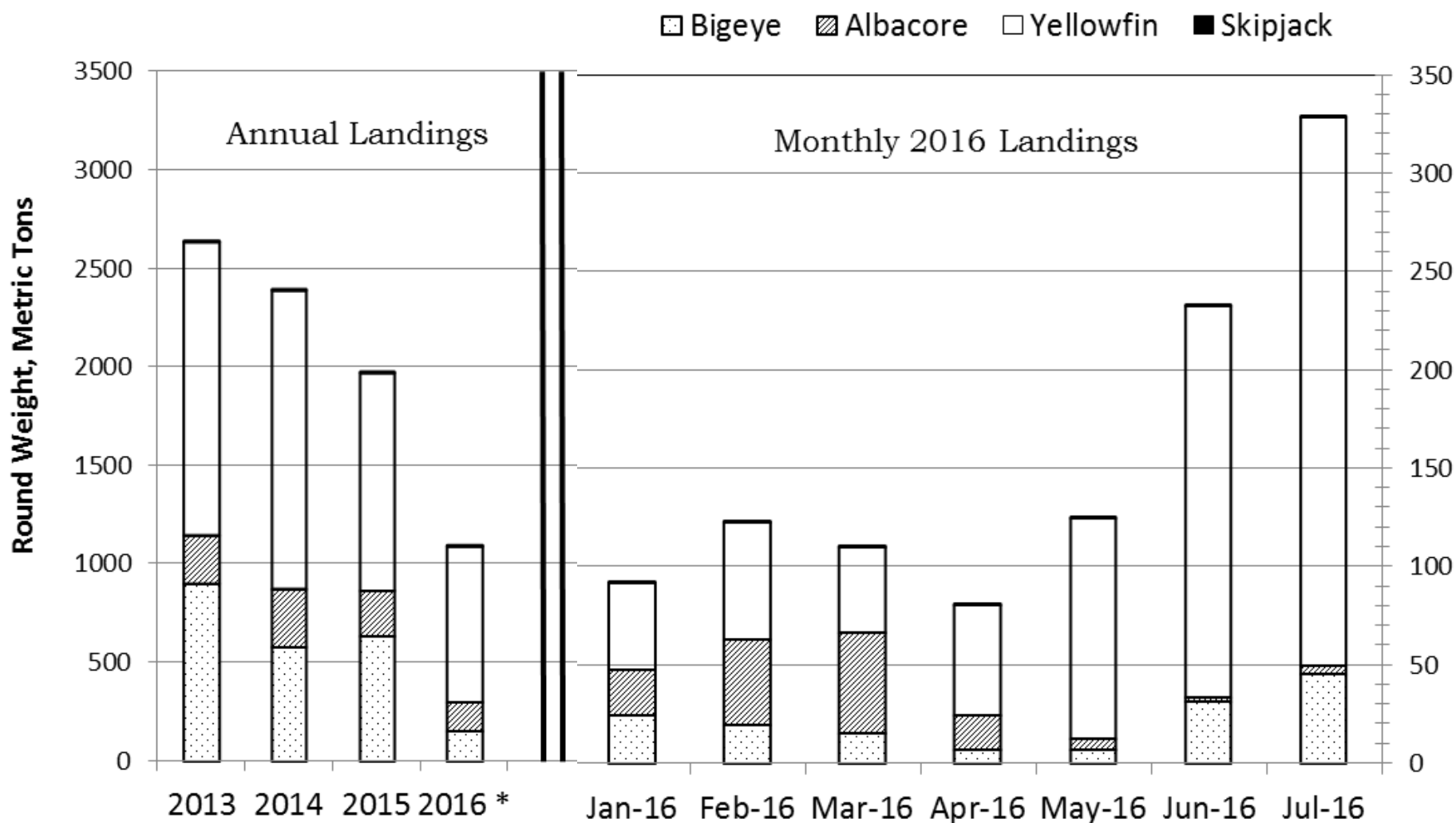


# Bluefin Tuna Landings in 2016 to date

As of October 12, 2016, preliminary commercial landings for the 2016 fishing year are as follows:

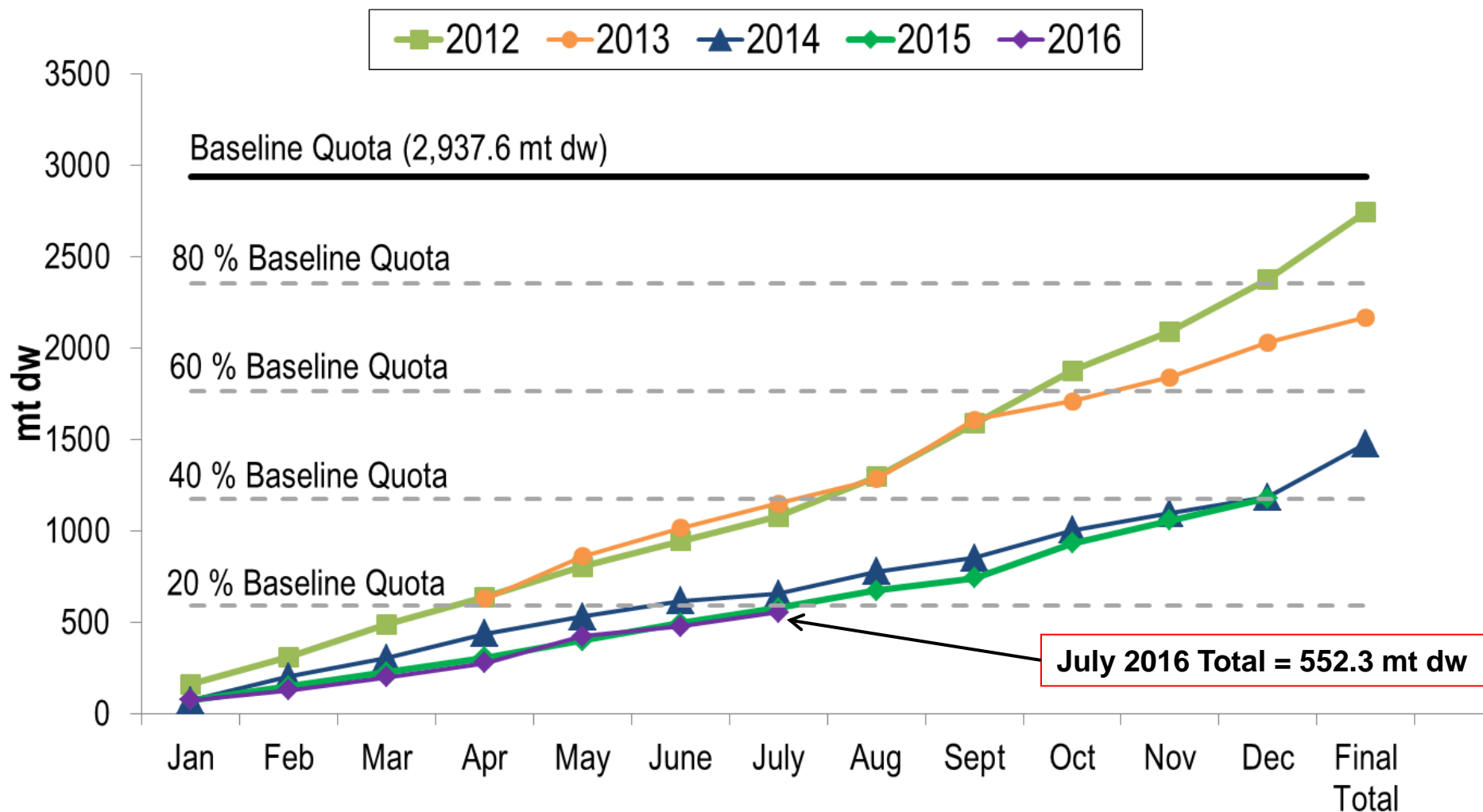
- General category has landed 544.8 mt out of 591.7 mt
- Harpoon category has landed 20.4 mt out of 38.6 mt
- Longline category has landed 73.9 mt out of 182.3 mt.
- Purse seine category has landed 0.0 out of 82.9 mt
- Trap category has landed 0.0 out of 1.0 mt

# Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, & Skipjack (BAYS) Tuna Landings

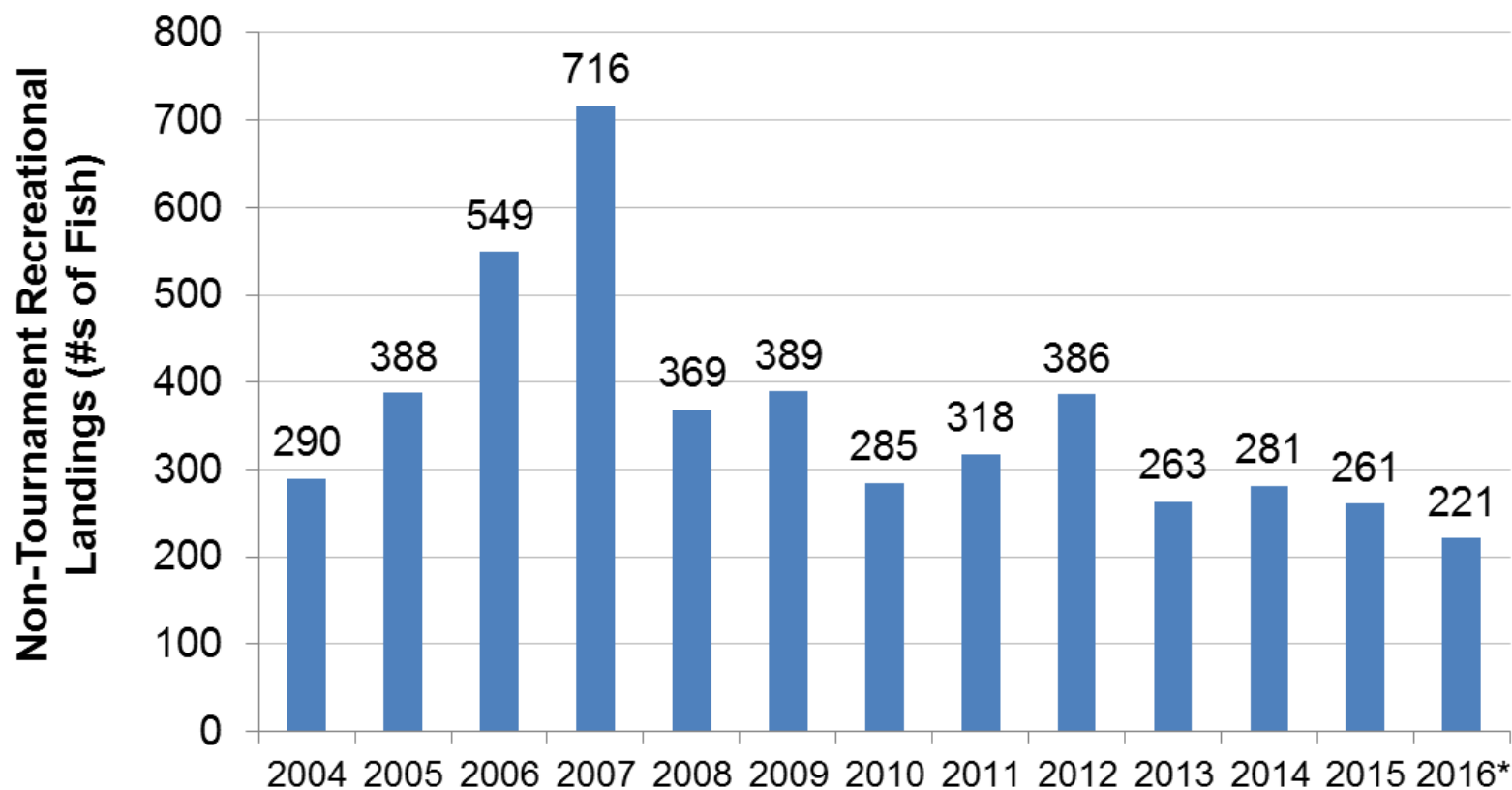




# North Atlantic Swordfish Landings



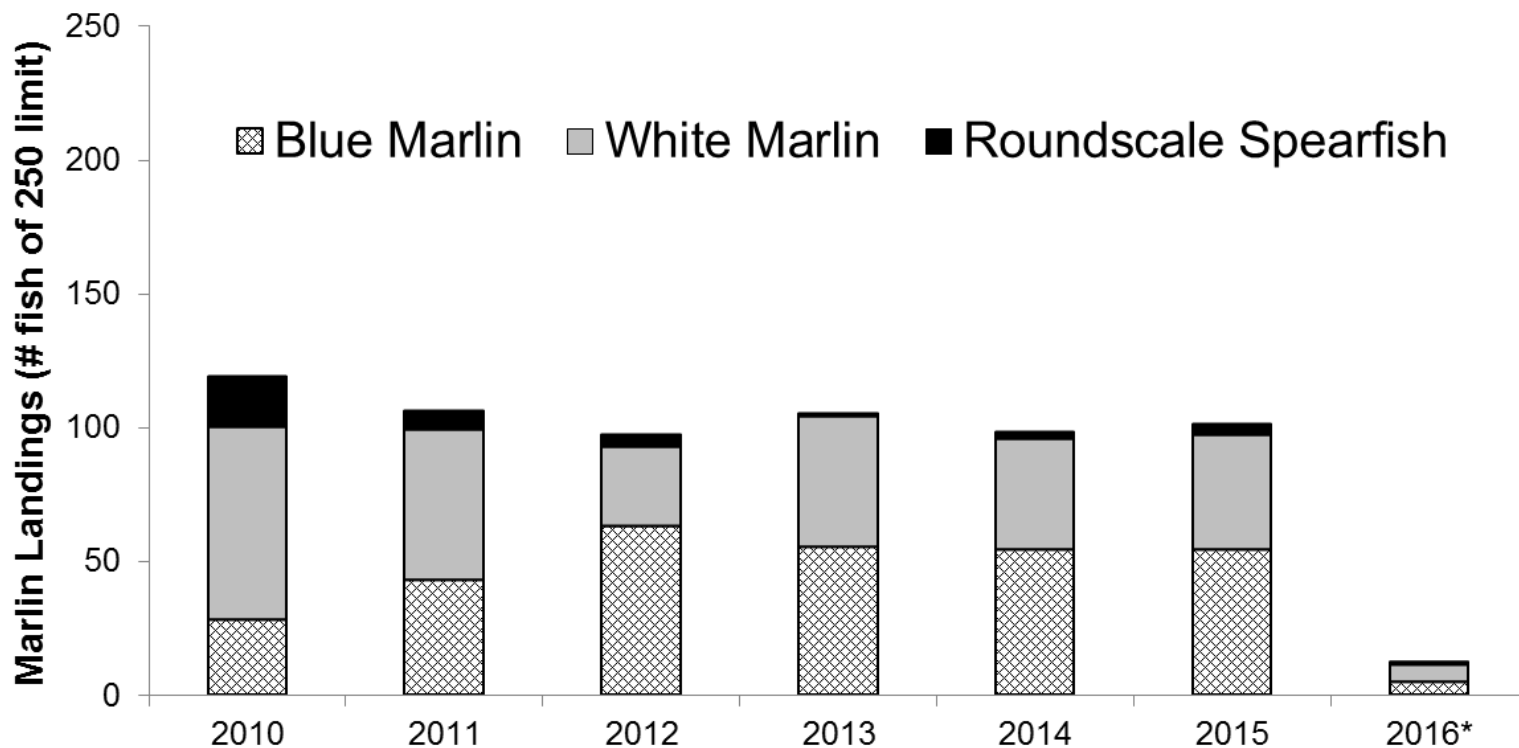
# Recreational Swordfish Landings



\* January 1 – August 31, 2016



# Recreational Billfish Landings



Roundscale Spearfish	19	7	4	1	2	4	1
White Marlin	72	56	30	49	42	43	6
Blue Marlin	28	43	63	55	54	54	5
Sailfish	192	173	184	173	118	113	68

\*Preliminary, January 1 – August 31, 2016

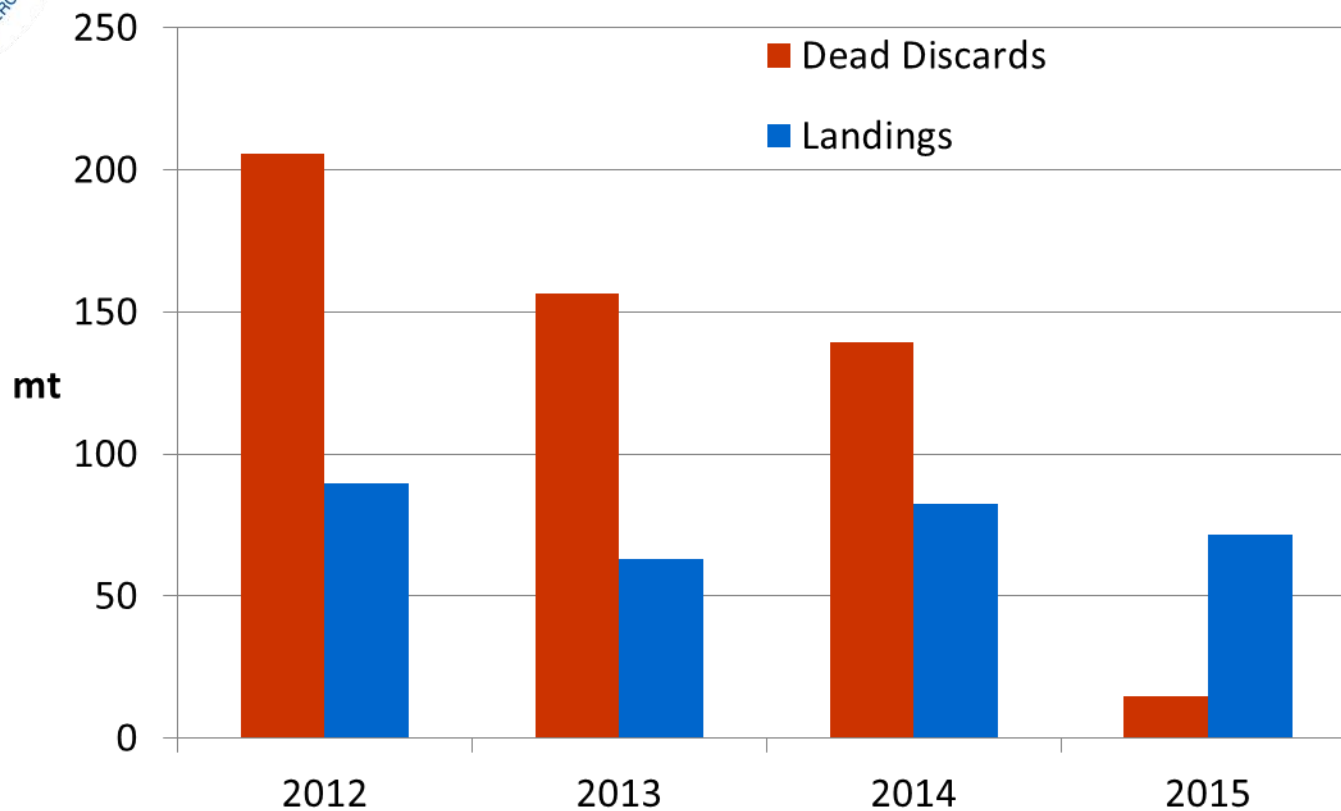
Source: Recreational (non-tournament) Database



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## Pelagic Longline Bluefin Landings and Dead Discards (mt)



Includes NED; Dead discard estimate based on observer data, extrapolated using logbook fishing effort; Landings are dealer data.



# Questions?

Thank you!